REMARKS

This application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters and prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. CLAIM STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-90 were pending in this application when last examined.

Claims 1-90 were objected to. <u>Claims 1-4 and 50-53 were indicated as allowable if amended to overcome the noted objections.</u>

Claims 89-90 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer thereto. Applicants reserve the right to file a Continuation or Divisional Application on any cancelled subject matter.

Claims 1-88 are amended to clarify the claimed invention.

The specification is amended to correct typographical errors.

The abstract is amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Figure 2 is amended to clarify the claimed invention.

No new matter has been added.

II. OBJECTIONS TO THE ABSTRACT

On page 2 of the Office Action, the abstract is objected to for the noted reasons. Herein are amendments to the abstract to alleviate these objections.

No new matter has been added by these amendments.

III. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

On page 2-3 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to for the noted reasons. Herein are amendments to Figure 2 to alleviate these objections.

No new matter has been added by these amendments.

IV. OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

On pages 3-5 of the Office Action, claims 1-90 are objected to for the noted reasons.

Claim 89-90 are cancelled and therefore the objections to these claims are moot.

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Claims 1-88 are amended to alleviate the noted objections.

No new matter has been added by these amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Markus HAIML et al.

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